

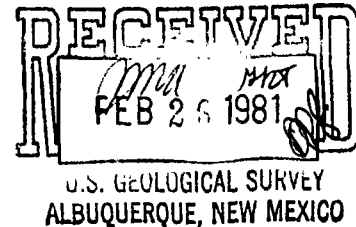


United States Department of the Interior

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
P. O. Box 26124
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125

February 25, 1981

Mr. Robert Lynn
Manager
The Anaconda Company
P. O. Box 638
Grants, New Mexico 87021

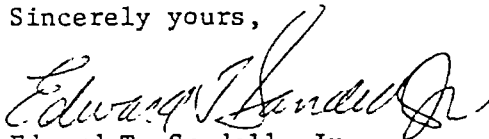


Dear Mr. Lynn:

I was recently informed that you had ordered a halt to all drill hole plugging at the Jackpile-Paguate Mine because you believed this work would be evaluated by the environmental impact statement (EIS), and, therefore, it could not proceed until the EIS is completed.

Drill hole plugging is considered to be a part of exploration activities for which there are established procedures and will, therefore, not be addressed in the EIS. Plugging should be completed at the earliest possible date, in accordance with previous instructions.

Sincerely yours,


Edward T. Sandell, Jr.
Deputy Conservation Manager--
Mining